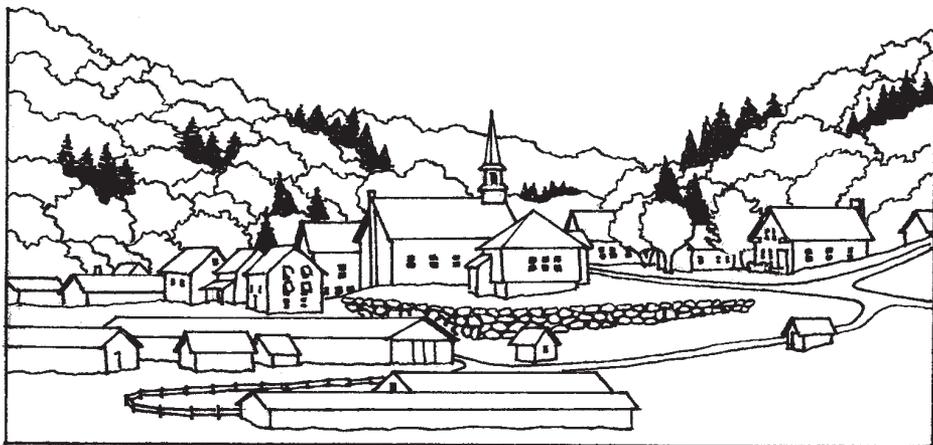


# The **TUNBRIDGE** Quarterly

**News and information  
from your town offices and  
local volunteer efforts.**



**May 15, 2018**  
**issue #52**

## **Tunbridge Select Board**

John O'Brien, Clerk

889-3474; bellwetherfilms@yahoo.com

Gary Mullen, Chair

889-3323, barn or 889-3242, house; theflyingfarmer29@gmail.com

Mike McPhetres, Vice Chair

802-272-6108, cell or 802-728-3390, shop; farmallfix@yahoo.com

Jackie Higgins, Administrative Assistant

802-505-1232 or 802-433-6671; tunbridge.adm.assist@gmail.com

Selectboard meetings are open to the public. Our standing meeting schedule is now the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, at 6:00 pm, in the town offices. If you would like to be on the agenda, please contact our Administrative Assistant, Jackie Higgins.

Now that the 120 days of January are over, we are reminded that we have only two months to go in the 2017/2018 Fiscal Year. Starting July 1st, monies budgeted back in November, 2017, and approved at this year's Town Meeting, will begin to be spent on Highway and Town projects. For example, the new Freightliner dump truck that you may have seen Rodney or Larry or Thomas or Jim driving around town, was budgeted for way back in 2016. The new windows that are going to let some natural light into the Town Garage were budgeted for last fall, and approved by Tunbridge voters at this year's Town Meeting. The lag between budgeting and town approval and spending the approved funds, means that expenditures, in general, are thoughtful, necessary, and conservative by nature. The most difficult thing for the Selectboard to respond to is the unexpected—if the grader dies, or a bridge fails, or a furnace gives up the ghost. And with climate change, we're learning we can expect the unexpected. How we should be budgeting for the unexpected is a discussion worth having at the next Town Meeting.

Fire Officer, Brenda Field, is busy crafting an improved burn ordinance, "regulating the disposal of solid waste through open burning." One of the improvements would be stiffer fines for any individual who burns when there is a burn ban in place. Also, said individual who starts an illegal burn that ultimately requires a response from the Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department, would be held responsible for reimbursing the TVFD. We're talking, potentially, thousands of dollars. Tunbridge isn't anti-burning. Go ahead and burn your brush pile, BUT make sure to give Brenda a call first for an OK. And if it's non-organic solid waste—tires, ag bags, insulation, a dead Kia—please don't trash Vermont, and don't torch your trash. Take it to Bert.

In addition to its 9 to 3 Saturday hours, the Transfer Station is now open on Wednesday evenings, 4 to 7 PM.

We are waiting on a state engineer to come and look at the drooping retaining wall behind the Town Offices. We need to address this situation sooner than later, and find a solution that's affordable and safe—a fix that will stabilize the bank for a hundred years, give or take a decade.

Jonni Spaulding is working on a re-design of her re-design of the Town Hall kitchen. Her initial re-design substituted the commercial range/oven for both a basic electric range/oven and a basic gas range/oven. However, the Rec. Dept. spoke up about how much they value the commercial range/oven and its capacity for serving up those delicious Rec breakfasts. We asked Jonni if there's any way she could re-re-design the kitchen to keep the big stove. She said, "I'll give it a shot." While they may not be appreciated in Washington DC, compromise and problem-solving are alive and well in Tunbridge.

The Town of Tunbridge is looking for a few good men or women—specifically, volunteers. We need a Tunbridgian to represent us at Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District meetings; we need a rep for the First Branch Ambulance board; we need a member or two for the Tunbridge Conservation Commission; and we need a rep for the EC Fiber committee. If you've come to "the end of the internet," or would like to travel to exotic places like Chelsea or Berlin, or would like to spend one evening a month with other very decent people, please get in touch with us!

## **The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly**

Janet Zug 889-9602 [zugglasstudio@gmail.com](mailto:zugglasstudio@gmail.com)

After this issue the Tunbridge Quarterly will be delivered on the standard quarterly schedule- the first day of January, April, July and October. The next issue will arrive in your mailbox close to July 1st and will continue every three months from there.

The new deadline dates are the 15th of December, March, June and September. Entries are printed as received and only edited for typos.

Feel free to contact me with any questions, comments or suggestions.

## **Tunbridge Town Clerk**

Elizabeth (Betsy) Sponable 889-5521 [tctunbridge@live.com](mailto:tctunbridge@live.com)

Hours: Mon-Thurs 7:30am-3:00 pm

Dog licenses per State Statue 20 V.S.A. 3581 were due on April 1, 2018. Late notices have been sent and as of April 30 there are 55 known unlicensed dogs. You may license your dog in person at the Town Clerks office, via mail, or the drop box located at the front entrance of the Town Office Building. Fees: altered \$11.00; non altered \$17.00. These fees include a late fee. A valid certificate of rabies is needed to license. If you no longer have your dog(s) please contact the Town Clerk so that we can adjust our records.

The Transfer station will once again be open on Wednesdays, commencing May 2nd from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. in addition to the usual Saturdays. Tickets are currently available at the Tunbridge Library, Village General Store and the Town Clerk's Office.

School Budget Vote! The first Annual Meeting of the First Branch Unified School District is being held on May 14, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Chelsea School Gymnasium. Voters from both Tunbridge and Chelsea will be voting on their combined fiscal budget. I am encouraging all Tunbridge voters to attend, as this budget will impact Education tax rates on your Tax bills.

July 1st will bring about some procedural changes in Town Clerk's offices throughout the state regarding obtaining Certified copies of birth and death records. The state has passed new legislation that will require anyone seeking a Certified copy of these records, to 1) Provide ID and prove a relationship to the individual on record, and 2) To complete an application for each record they seek. The state's goal is to attempt to reduce identity theft. You will no longer be required to go to the Town where the birth or death occurred, but you can visit any Clerk's office in the state to obtain the record. Copies will no longer be made from the Clerk's recorded original. All Clerk's will be required to sign onto the Vermont Vital Statistics page online and download and print from there. Clerk's will be required to log in each and every Certified document number that they issue into the online system, and the state will then monitor the number of copies issued for any given record. If any of these numbers appear to be out of the ordinary, that will be a trigger for them to take some type of action. This new system will not pertain to Marriage Certificates. They will continue to be available at the individual Clerk's office in which the License was issued.

It looks like our long awaited spring may finally be here! I hope you are enjoying these warmer temperatures and all the beauty that Tunbridge has to offer as the trees start budding out and everything turns green again. We are so very fortunate to be able to call this place home!

Births: \* No new births have been recorded in Tunbridge yet for 2018.

Marriages: No new marriages have been recorded since the last Quarterly issue. There have been several licenses issued, however, for weddings to take place in the near future. These should appear in the next issue, after the ceremonies have taken place.

Deaths: Floyd O. McPhetres, January 31, 2018

Kathleen E. Welch, February 4, 2018

Martha Jean Frost, March 11, 2018

Howard Frank Hoyt, Jr., April 18, 2018

Matthew B. Boles, April 19, 2018

## **Tunbridge Town Treasurer**

Becky Hoyt - 889-3571 treasurer@tunbridge.biz

Happy Spring!!! (I think) The Treasurer's Office has been hopping with lots of tax bill requests, but I am excited to see that many of you are making sure to file your Homestead before the April 15th deadline. Also remember that it is very important to open your tax bill when you receive it at the end of August. Make sure to look it over carefully and see that it looks right to you. If you think it doesn't look right, please call us or the state to see what we can do to make it right.

We are almost done with the fiscal year. The finances of the town are looking to be in good shape. We should also have a recap of what happened financially at Town Meeting if you were unable to come. The budgets for the General fund and the Highway Fund were approved. The General Fund will need to raise \$284,839.39 with tax money. The town also approved the use of FY16 surplus money to reduce this amount by \$40,000.00 and to move the rest of any surplus money from FY16 and FY17 to be moved to the Capital Improvement fund. The Capital Improvement funds will be used to help with the new kitchen and the retaining wall behind the Town Office Building. The Highway Fund will need to raise \$710,660.00 from Taxes. The Town approved \$39,450.00 to be raised by taxes for the Fire Dept. Lastly the Town approved \$14,342.00 for Appropriations. They voted to increase the Chelsea Senior Center appropriation from \$1000.00 to \$1500.00.

Lastly, we are finishing up our outside audit by Batchelder and Associates. We are getting into the last stages and will have the results available in the office hopefully by the end of May for anyone that would like to see it. This year's audit was a little more challenging because of the change in accounting systems. We will be in better shape next year for a faster audit.

I hope everyone enjoys the spring weather (I hope we are having spring weather soon). As always if you have any questions please contact me.

## **Tunbridge Grange # 384**

Rosemary Distel 802-272-2235

The Grange's Friday Night Bingo has been going very well; thanks to everyone for attending and having some fun! By the time you read this issue of the TQ, the Grange would have just held another fund raiser with our annual Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, May 12 and kicked-off our tradition of the start of ticket sales for our yearly quilt raffle.

Watch the Randolph Herald for other future community events sponsored by the Tunbridge Grange. The Grange supports local community members in need. We meet the first Wednesday of the month at 7 PM and the meetings usually only last about an hour and then we have good conversation and snacks! Please consider joining the Grange so we can continue to keep this worthy organization going.

For more information, contact either Marilyn (Mert) Vesper 889-5595 or Rosemary Distel 272-2235.

## **First Branch Ambulance**

Judy Tucker - 889-3305 judytucker1@myfairpoint.net

The First Branch Ambulance wishes to thank everyone who so generously donated to our fund raising campaign. Thank you one and all.

We are always looking for people interested in becoming volunteer EMTs. Please contact Chase Ackerman or Linda Kuban, or inquire about our next training session.

I would like to set up a CPR review for those people interested. It will be held at the Chelsea Fire Station. Please call me at my home number and leave your name, phone number, day and time which would work best for you. Chase has said he will assist us with this endeavor. This includes all residents of Tunbridge.

## **First Branch Unified District**

Kathy Galluzzo 565-0695 kgalluzzo@wrvsu.org

Maryann Caron 889-5694 mcaron@wrvsu.org

Jena Young 889-2804 jyoung@wrvsu.org

## **Tunbridge Planning Commission**

Ingrid Van Steamburg 889-3459

We are in the final stages of revising the town plan and hope to have the selectboard approve the plan in late May or early June. We would like to thank everyone in the community who has assisted us with this project - without your input it really isn't a town plan. We look forward to hosting some potlucks over the next year with themes related to the different chapters of the plan, to keep conversations fresh in town about what people would like to see stay the same and change for the future of our town. Our public hearing is/was on May 15th and has been warned accordingly in the Herald and we hope we have/had as great a turn out as our last public forum in the fall.

## **Tunbridge Women's Group**

Pam Dietz 889-3315

Local women are invited to send their email addresses to Elaine Howe at [ehowe2@wrvsu.org](mailto:ehowe2@wrvsu.org) to receive Tunbridge Women's Group (TWG) mailings.

In addition to sharing community news through occasional emails, the women's group hosts monthly potluck suppers in local homes. This is an informal group without officers, committees and duties that offers women a chance to meet each other and share conversation and information about their interests.

## **Making Change**

Lisa Kippen 889-9822 [www.secondwindfound.org](http://www.secondwindfound.org)

Making Change is a support group for young people who are considering or committed to keeping it real when it comes to their substance misuse. Free and totally confidential. Meetings are held on Wednesday nights from 5:30 to 6:30 at the Parish House.

## **Tunbridge Library**

Hours: Mon & Wed 3-8, Thur & Fri 3-6, Sat 9-3

Jean Wolfe, Librarian 889-9404 [tunbridgelibrary@yahoo.com](mailto:tunbridgelibrary@yahoo.com)

Fern Strong, ArtSpace Coordinator, 860-986-0507; [redbarnrugs2@yahoo.com](mailto:redbarnrugs2@yahoo.com)

In the coming weeks, the Friends will be preparing for their Book, Bake, and Plant Sales on Memorial Day (Monday, May 28). Contact us if you would like to pitch in on one of these exciting efforts.

Every want to get together with friends to see a movie, but would rather not go out late? Would you like to rediscover classic films and overlooked sleepers that never got the popularity they deserved? Come to a matinee at the library! Upcoming Saturday matinees will be 1:30 on May 19 and 1:30 on June 2. These films have been selected for grown-up audiences, unless otherwise noted. Stop by the library for details; our license allows us to share titles on the library premises and on the website ([TunbridgeLibrary.org](http://TunbridgeLibrary.org))

The library currently hosts a wonderful collection of landscape paintings by Randolph artist Jan Fowler. Running through June 28, “Reverence,” depicts scenes from our local area, to as far away as Florida, the Southwest, and Europe. There is a reception for the artist on Sunday, May 20 from 2 to 4 pm. If you are interested in showing some of your own work, or would like to connect us with an artist, reach out to Fern, the ArtSpace Coordinator, at the email address above.

The Library is home to an ongoing book discussion with the Upper Valley Mountain Literature Society. Initiated by Wright Frost, this group has been embarking on challenging expeditions of the mind through hair-raising ordeals that test the human spirit in surprising ways. The next book (“No Picnic on Mount Kenya”) is the true story of three Italian POWs who escape from British custody during WWII and proceed to scale Kenya’s highest peak. Pick up a copy at the library today, and get together on Thursday (June 14) at 6:30 for an exciting discussion.

For those who are not ready to read yet, our next Story Hour will be May 19 at 9 am. Once June starts we will be changing our schedule to accommodate summer schedules.

There are book discussions for younger readers too—pick up a copy of Charlotte’s Web to read with your family. We’ll be having a Family Book Night in the coming month, where we’ll discuss the book, enjoy snacks, and watch a film.

The Summer Library Program in June. The theme this summer will be ‘We Can Do It!’ and we will be attempt to create a few masterpieces that will last far beyond the summer months. You will need to fasten your seat-belt, since we will be also starting the Race-to-Read challenge once school is out. Look for more information coming soon.

If you are enthusiastic or curious about knitting, crocheting, tatting, or any other fiber arts, there is a dedicated Fiber Art group that meets here in the library first and third Wednesdays at 6pm. Upcoming dates will include May 16, June 6, June 20, and July 18 (skipping the Fourth of July).

In recognition of the Fourth of July we will be hosting a community reading made possible by the Vermont Humanities Council. When Frederick Douglass was asked to speak to an audience of urban elite in 1852 in honor of Independence Day his response was both a courageous declaration of the dignity of all people, and an indictment of all who ignore the cries for justice and liberty for their fellow human brothers and sisters. Come join us on Sunday, July 1st at 6:30pm for this event. No preparation is required.

## **Tunbridge Energy Committee**

Todd Tyson 802-431-3433

The Tunbridge Energy Committee (TEC) works to support the Town of Tunbridge Select Board, Planning Commission and its residents in all matters of energy efficiency through research, education and hands-on workshops with a goal of reducing the output of carbon pollution, and thus cooling the planet through the use of renewable energy sources.

Monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at the Tunbridge Library. All residents of Tunbridge are welcome. Minutes from our meetings can be found on the Tunbridge Website.

TEC put together a survey for town meeting asking folks to rate what are the most important projects or focus. If you did not get a chance to fill out a survey at town meeting you can stop by the library to do so. We appreciate your input. Here are the results.

Most important- Change street lights to LEDs

Pursue community solar project (Tunbridge residents and or town pool together in grid tied solar project).

Help towns folk assess energy efficiency programs for their home & rental properties.

Next important- Conduct energy efficiency audit of town buildings and report to select board.

Least important- Hold speaker series on energy efficiency topics.

Work with Planning Commission and town folks on land management practices that actually cool the planet.

## **Tunbridge Fire Warden**

Brenda Field - 889-5548

Now that spring is truly here and snow should be gone by the time you read this, I would like to review the burning rules per the State of Vermont. You need a “State of Vermont Permit to Kindle Fire” to burn natural wood product in Tunbridge if there is no snow surrounding the burn project. If there is snow surrounding the burn area, you still need to follow Air Pollution Regulations for Vermont.

Rain or shine you need a Permit, if there is no snow surrounding the area.

You can get a permit by calling either myself, Brenda Field at 889-5548 (1st choice) or John Durkee at 889-3408.

If you get a message, leave your name, call back number, what you intend to burn and when you would like to burn.

Per the State of Vermont Forest, Parks and Recreation’s suggestion I prefer to give out permits, weather permitting, for blocks of time up to 3 days only. Then call again. Plan ahead a bit and give us time to get back to you.

We ( Fire Warden, Selectboard and Fire Department) are working on updating a Burn Ordinance. The verbiage that has mostly been outlined and suggested by Vermont Forest, Parks and Recreation Department and Vermont Air Pollution Regulations. Watch the newspaper and town web site for notifications of the upcoming timing of that ordinance and public input before hand. We will do our best to get all information out to you after we get it reviewed by VLCT. Hopefully, it will make it easier to answer all the questions that folks may have and more readily available on our town web site in the future.

I very much appreciate the folks who call, ask questions and how careful you are when it gets a bit dry out there.

## **Tunbridge Town Website**

Geoff Hansen, 802-889-3373, or [info@geoffhansen.com](mailto:info@geoffhansen.com)

It's been great to hear from so many of you about the new and improved Town of Tunbridge website! We continue to build upon it -- please let us know about improvements you would like to see. The site features town officials' contact information and meeting minutes, as well as the current and past issues of the Tunbridge Quarterly. There is also a Calendar of Events page, listing upcoming meetings and events hosted by non-profit groups. Contact Geoff via the email address above with questions and suggestions.

## **Chelsea Area Senior Center**

Susan Pirie, 685-2290, [chelseaseniorcenter@gmail.com](mailto:chelseaseniorcenter@gmail.com)

Tunbridge seniors are invited to attend noon congregate meals on Mondays and Fridays at the Chelsea Area Senior Center in the United Church of Chelsea on the North Common. Meals on Wheels delivery in Tunbridge is available those days.

The Senior Center, which is affiliated with the Central Vermont Council on Aging, serves residents of Tunbridge, Chelsea and Vershire. It offers entertainment, health speakers, blood pressure clinics, foot clinics by appointment, trips and fundraisers.

For additional information contact director Susan Pirie, 685-2290, [chelseaseniorcenter@gmail.com](mailto:chelseaseniorcenter@gmail.com)

## **FrontPorchForum.com**

The free e-newsletter for Tunbridge and Chelsea residents includes a calendar that has posted 756 local events. The Forum was started five years ago for neighbors to share everything from lost animals and needed services and materials to giveaways, sales, queries and discussion of local issues. Last month it reached local inboxes more than 11,000 times.

## **Alliance for Vermont Communities**

Michael Sacca - 889-3210 mfsacca@sover.net

We have a number of pretty cool announcements and developments to report.

On the legislative front, HR20, a resolution which expresses opposition to the NewVistas development project and urges David Hall to discontinue his development plans was passed by the Vermont House on April 27th. The resolution was built on the resolutions passed (with overwhelming votes) at the town meetings in March 2017 and was introduced by Rep. Tim Briglin (Norwich, Sharon, Strafford, and Thetford). Twelve cosponsors supported the resolution, including Democrats, Republicans, a Progressive and an Independent. The group included every Orange County member of the House and every member representing a town in the White River Valley. It will be sent to David Hall as yet another indication that a diverse cross section of Vermonters, local and not, do not wish to see his development occur in our towns.

Alliance for Vermont Communities has a number of positive, community building projects in the works with our partners right now.

### Career Profiles and Pathways:

We are working with the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund and the Vermont Farm to Plate Network on a project to bring experiential learning to our schools in Central Vermont. Students coordinate interviews with people within our food system and create a book published by the Vermont Farm to Plate Network. Kids get the chance to hone their communication, writing and relationship building skills while getting familiar with their community. Alex Buskey, AVC outreach coordinator, has been visiting with students and staff alongside Sarah Danly of Vermont Farm to Plate at the Hartford Area Career and Technical Center (HACTC), Hartford High School and the South Royalton High School. More info at <http://www.vtfarmtoplate.com>

### Vermont Council on Rural Development:

The mission of VCRD is to help Vermont citizens build prosperous and resilient communities through democratic engagement, marshalling resources and collective action. They have facilitated over 60 intensive community visits in which residents come together to identify and advance key priorities. AVC has been coordinating communication between the selectboards of Royalton, Sharon, Strafford and Sharon in advance of a potential year-long visit from VCRD. Normally they visit one town at a time, but they see this four town visit as a new and exciting opportunity to work on a regional approach. All four towns share roots in agriculture and forestry and despite any surface

differences, face the same issues, balancing desirable growth while maintaining their distinctive individual character. Alex Buskey, along with several board members, have been helping to coordinate a four town VCRD visit for 2019 with community leaders and town officials. More info at [www.vtrural.org](http://www.vtrural.org)

### The Ranger bike event and community celebration:

On Sunday June 10th, AVC will be hosting the Second Annual Ranger Community Event building on the success of last year's event. Last year we had 98 participating cyclists and more than 200 total people at the community celebration which included food, music and games. We are expecting even greater participation this year and we are very excited to announce our Junior Ranger program, which will help kids and those new to the sport get out on a bike and appreciate the land around them. More info at [www.therangervt.com](http://www.therangervt.com)

### Together We Can!

Thank you to everyone who has been involved in this important work. To learn more about what we do please take a look at our website or contact Alex Buskey at [therangervt@gmail.com](mailto:therangervt@gmail.com) or Michael Sacca at 889.3210. Tax deductible donations can be mailed to AVC P.O. Box 545 South Royalton, VT 05068 or be made on our website [alliancevermont.org](http://alliancevermont.org). We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

## **Better Bones**

Shelia Mitchinson - 889-5547

Classes on Tuesdays & Thursdays

6:30am - Elaine Howe 889-5560

8:30am - Shelia & Gordon Mitchinson - 889-5547

5:30pm - Kay Jorgensen - 889-5528

Classes at the Town Hall are free with weights provided. You only need to bring yourself, a towel and a bottle of water! You can pick up your liability and Medical Release Forms at the Town Clerk's office. These are required before you begin and can be turned in at your first class. Come join us or come back for renewed strength, energy and balance!

## **The Tunbridge Church**

Kay Jorgensen, 889-9828, [thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com](mailto:thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com).

On Memorial Day the Village church will be open for those who would like a place to rest and listen to quiet music before activities begin. Local non-profits will be set up across the road on the Parish House lawn. (Plants will be at the library.)

Sunday worship services will be held at 10 a.m. at the South Tunbridge Methodist Church during July. This year is that church's 185th anniversary. The building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Rev. Dr. Claire Bamberg will lead two services each month.

Forty years ago The Tunbridge Church was established when the Congregational, Methodist and Baptist congregations merged. The church's anniversary will be celebrated with a cake at the Community Ice Cream Social on the Parish House lawn at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 10. All are invited to come for ice cream and stay for the Tunbridge Historical Society's "Tunbridge Speaks" program in the church at 7:30.

On Saturday, July 14, from 7 to 2 the annual Community Yard Sale will be held on the Parish House lawn and at the Town Hall. This is Chelsea Flea Market day which generates a lot of traffic. Vendors – pre-owned items, crafts, market gardeners — are invited. The 15'x15' spaces are \$20, payable that day. The church welcomes donations of Christmas and gently used items for its tables. Contact Nancy Howe to reserve a booth at 889-3750.

The first Sunday in August, the 5th, the annual outdoor service and picnic will be held at Judie Lewis's Dickerman Hill pond. Remaining August services will be at North Tunbridge Baptist Church, all at 10 a.m.

In September worship services will return to the Congregational Church in Tunbridge Village. All services will start at 10 with the exception of the 50th annual Festival of Worship Fair Service, which will begin at 9:30 on Sept. 16.

The Pastor Search Committee continues to welcome queries about the pastor position. Information about the church is available at [www.ucc.org/ucc\\_ministry\\_opportunities](http://www.ucc.org/ucc_ministry_opportunities).

The Community Food Shelf is open Fridays from 4-6 p.m. at the Parish House at the corner of Potash Road and Route 110. Making Change meets there Wednesdays at 5:30.

Visit the church at [www.facebook.com/thetunbridgechurch](http://www.facebook.com/thetunbridgechurch).

## **Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department**

Jena Young 889-2804

At our annual meeting in March, Bob Dunkle, Gary Farlow & Mike Boguzewski were all recognized for 10 years of service in the Department. John O'Brien and Pete Button were re-elected to 2 year terms on the Board of Trustees; Simon Bradford was re-elected as Chief, Emily Howe was elected to her first term as Clerk and Amy Young was voted in as our auditor.

Our 10th annual Easter egg hunt was held on March 31st at the school. Roughly 40 children hunted for and rounded up over 500 hidden eggs. The searching was extra challenging this year with much of the playground still under snow and ice. Despite the snow cover, baskets were spilling over with eggs and kids and parents enjoyed some good conversation after a long winter.

Want to burn? Remember to contact our Fire Warden, Brenda Field at 889 5548 for a fire permit if you want to burn brush. A permit is required to burn brush at your home.

Parts have been ordered for the dispatch frequency grant we were awarded last fall. Installation should take place soon or so and will improve our signal strength and communication ability. The Fire Department recently drafted and approved a procurement policy to establish standards for bidding out jobs and purchasing.

Following many conversations about the number of volunteers, and paid versus volunteer departments, the TVFD Board of Trustees voted and approved a \$400 annual stipend to members classified as active status in the TVFD, for 2 consecutive 6 month periods. Active status is defined in the SOG's and includes training participation. The stipends were included in the approved FY19 budget.

It's BBQ time! If you would like to eat our barbecued chicken on Memorial Day, you must call ahead & reserve your chicken. Remember, you can purchase just a half chicken, or you can make it a meal for a few bucks more which includes macaroni and potato salad, a roll, butter and your choice of beverage. Please e-mail your chicken barbeque reservations to TVFDB-BQ@gmail.com or call Matt Loftus at 889-3274 or Simon Bradford at 889-5518 to place your reservation. Thank you for your continued support as this fund raiser proves to be a great success every year.

## **Tunbridge School Club**

Kathi Terami 889-5575    [tunbridgeschoolclub@wrvsu.org](mailto:tunbridgeschoolclub@wrvsu.org)

Teacher Appreciation Week: Every spring, the first full week of May is National Teacher Appreciation Week. School Club organized a special luncheon on May 7 that gave teachers and staff a rare chance to enjoy a meal together. Thank you to all who contributed items to the luncheon, volunteered to cover lunch/recess duty and recognized our special teachers and staff in other ways. Last Day of School Picnic: School ends with a half-day on June 19. School Club will host the annual last-day-of-school picnic from 11am - Noon for all students, staff, teachers, parents and volunteers. Community members are welcome to join us in celebrating the end of the school year. Please email [tunbridgeschoolclub@wrvsu.org](mailto:tunbridgeschoolclub@wrvsu.org) if you would like to volunteer your time or contribute food items to this event.

Finances in Good Standing: School Club currently has over \$9,000 in its bank account. So far this year, School Club has provided support for the Back-to-School potluck; movie site license; K/1/2 field trip to see Dragons Love Tacos at the Hopkins Center for the arts; student gifts at the holiday concert; the holiday breakfast for teachers and staff; classroom supplies for teachers at the New Year; supplies for Winter Carnival; 1/2 Dairy in the Classroom visit to VTC; and a Teacher Appreciation Week luncheon. Upcoming support will include flowers and cake for the graduation ceremony and the last day of school picnic.

Important – Last Meeting of the School Year: School Club's last meeting of the year is on Monday, June 4 in the TCS Library at 6:00pm. Please mark your calendar for this important planning session. We will review this year and look ahead to next year: creating a budget, establishing planning committees for fundraisers and setting dates for events. All are welcome to come to share ideas or get involved!

## **Tunbridge Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

Pam Dietz, President – 889-3315

Maxine Young, Secretary – 763-8274 - [youngvt@myfairpoint.net](mailto:youngvt@myfairpoint.net)

For TNH services, call: \*\*\* 889-3437 \*\*\*

TNH provides needed services to residents through volunteer actions and acts as a coordinator for volunteer efforts. There is no charge for any service.

## **ECFiber**

### **(East-Central Vermont Community Fiber-Optic Network)**

Henry Swayze 603-667-8932 [henryswayze@gmail.com](mailto:henryswayze@gmail.com)

ECF office - 763-2262 [info@ecfiber.net](mailto:info@ecfiber.net) [www.ecfiber.net](http://www.ecfiber.net)

The mission of ECFiber is “To build and operate a universal, open access, fiber-to-the-premises network, bringing state-of-the art connectivity to every home, business and civic institution in all of our member towns.”

ECFiber has 24 member towns. Installing fiber optic cable and hooking up all the customers who want this service takes time. The best way to get on the schedule to have your road connected is to go to [www.ecfiber.net/](http://www.ecfiber.net/) subscribe and sign up. Then, talk to your neighbors and get them to subscribe as well. The planners are using those statistics to decide where to build next.

Each town has two delegate seats on the board which meets once a month. Tunbridge needs another volunteer to step up and join this worth while effort. Please contact Henry if you are interested in learning more about getting involved.

## **Vital Communities Listserv**

Michael Sacca 889-3210 [mfsacca@sover.net](mailto:mfsacca@sover.net)

Fellow Tunbridge-ites: many of the towns in our immediate area have a”ListServ” in place which is hosted by Vital Communities to foster increased communication among residents from offering items for sale, to services wanted and offered, announcements of coming events, lost and found, and to discussions of community wide interest. I have heard from people who use it that it has been an asset to their town. Though Tunbridge is presently served by “Front Porch Forum”, those who have access to both say the Vital Communities Listserv is far more comprehensive and useful. Some people subscribe to both.

Now that it is in place, it needs to be populated by your postings of the above mentioned announcements and other news. To sign up, go to:

<https://lists.vitalcommunities.org/lists/info/tunbridge>

then select “subscribe” on the left hand side and type in your email address. You can always select “unsubscribe” to opt out.

## **Tunbridge Memorial Day**

Memorial Day activities on May 28 will begin at 9 a.m. with the annual Friends of Tunbridge Library sales. New books and gift items will be sold upstairs at the library and on the lawn. A large selection of used books in many categories and subject areas will be in the basement. Pies, cookies, breads and drinks will be downstairs in the Town Hall.

This year a selection of donated plants will be sold on the library lawn and porch. Non-profit groups will be set up on the Parish House lawn with raffles and other fundraising. The Tunbridge Church will be open for people who would like to take a break and listen to quiet taped music.

The theme of the 11 a.m. Town Hall memorial service is “History Throughout the Ages,” with special readings and the singing of “America” and “God Bless America.” “Land of the Free” is the theme of the parade that will begin at 11:40. It will be dedicated to the late Floyd McPhetres, longtime resident and founding member of the Central Vermont Tractor Club who rode in many parades.

The dedication ceremony at the Civil War monument at Hoyt Memorial Park will follow the parade. After the parade the Tunbridge Volunteer Fire Department will be at the fairgrounds selling barbecued half chickens, hotdogs and drinks. The Tunbridge Recreation Committee will sponsor free ice cream, a bounce house and cow pie bingo.

## **Tunbridge Walking Group**

Maxine Young-802-763-8274

The Tunbridge Walking Group was loosely organized in November 2011. We have continued to walk three times a week since that time. We walk Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings at various locations in Tunbridge, meeting at 9:30 for about an hour or sometimes a little more. Not everyone can make it every day, even once a week for some. We have lost and gained walkers, however, our numbers remain consistent. Three of us are tasked with setting up a monthly schedule. We have logged many miles, some great hikes, and in the winter snowshoe or cross-country ski. The terrain varies, however, there is something for everyone. Anyone is welcome to join us. You do not have to live in Tunbridge. Contact Maxine Young, 802-763-8274 to be added to our e-mail list or [youngvt@myfairpoint.net](mailto:youngvt@myfairpoint.net). This is a great way to begin or maintain a healthy lifestyle, lower blood pressure, lose weight, lower cholesterol numbers, deal with stress, better breathing and the list goes on.

## Calendar of Events

See individual entries for more events.

### May

- 22 - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers, 7:30pm, Town Hall, \$8.00  
Live Music, refreshments at intermission
  
- 28 - Memorial Day: Town Hall service at 11 followed by parade & cemetery ceremony. Library and Town Hall book and plant sales 9-1.  
see entry on previous page for more info  
Fire Department and Tunbridge Rec food on the fairgrounds.  
TVFD chicken dinner - Pre-order info on page 14.

### June

- 3 - Vermont 4H Horse clinic, south oval, on the fairgrounds
  
- 10 - “The Ranger” mountain bike ride, starting on the fairgrounds.  
Benefit for the Alliance for Vermont Communities. See pg 12.  
<https://www.therangervt.com>
  
- 21-25 - Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival, on the fairgrounds.  
<http://jennybrookbluegrass.com>

- 22 - Ed Larkin Contra Dancers, 7:30pm, Town Hall, \$8.00  
Live Music, refreshments at intermission

### July

- 10 - Ice Cream Social, Parish House lawn. 6:30pm, BYO Chair  
Tunbridge Historical Society “Tunbridge Speaks” at church, 7:30 p.m.
  
- 12-15 Woodstock and Green Mountain Dog Shows, on the fairgrounds  
[www.woodstockdogclub.org](http://www.woodstockdogclub.org), [www.greenmountaindogclub.org](http://www.greenmountaindogclub.org)
  
- 14 - Community Yard Sale on Parish House Lawn, 7-2pm, see pg 13.  
The 15’x15’ exhibitor spaces are \$20, payable that day.

Second Sundays: All-you-can-eat breakfast, 8am - 12pm, Town Hall, \$10.

The TUNBRIDGE Quarterly  
P.O. Box 68  
Tunbridge, VT 05077

Electronic Service Requested

PRSRSTSD  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Tunbridge, VT  
Permit No. 3

Postal Patron  
Tunbridge, VT 05077